11 July 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT : Soviet Capabilities for Long Range Attack

1. At the National Security Council meeting on 10 July to discuss this matter, the President directed that a Committee of Principals consisting of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Director of Central Intelligence, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the Special Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs (Mr. Bundy) be established to determine the impact on future Soviet foreign policy in the light of our new assessment of their military capabilities. In other words he wants to get some feeling of just what this Soviet military posture would do or how it might affect the foreign policy and international aspects of Soviet conduct for the next several years. It was agreed that Mr. Alexis Johnson of State would chair a group subordinate to the Principals to initially study this problem. It was also agreed that the Board of National Estimates would assist the subordinate group by the preparation of an SNIE.*

2. Mr. Sherman Kent is designated the CIA representative to the subordinate group working with Mr. Johnson. The Board of National Estimates is directed to prepare an SNIE* on this subject.

3. It would appear that the initial step for the Board of National Estimates would be to obtain from the Alexis Johnson committee the Terms of Reference or charter or directed parameters within which the SNIE* should be developed.

4. In the absence of Mr. Sherman Kent, Mr. Abbot Smith is designated the CIA representative.

5. Please report periodically to the Director and me the results of these deliberations.

6. [ ] please take appropriate action to inform USIB of the SNIE* requirement.

/s/ MSC

Marshall S. Carter
Lieutenant General, USA
Deputy Director

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* Altered per DCI's
instructions this AM

MSC (11 July)

MEC:blp
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